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FM AMEMBASSY BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3791

INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS PRIORITY

RUCNISL/ISLAMIC COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN 000121

SIPDIS

C O R R E C T E D   C O P Y / C H A N G E   I N F O   A D D R E S S E E

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR ISN, NEA, IO, AND EAP/MTS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KNNP IAEA PARM MNUC TRGY AORC UNSC BX

SUBJECT: BRUNEI NONCOMMITTAL ON NATANZ OPENING PARTICIPATION

REF: SECSTATE 45880

¶1. (SBU) DCM delivered reftel demarche at OOB on April 9 Pg Ali Hashim, Director for Bilateral Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Ali Hashim thanked us for the information and said he would immediately pass our request to MFAT leadership for consideration. He cautioned that in the past, Brunei has supported Iran's "peaceful" use of nuclear power in the OIC and NAM and could not predict how the GOB would respond.

¶2. (SBU) DCM pressed that regardless of Brunei's OIC position, Brunei had fully implemented UNSCRs sanctioning Iran for its nuclear program. With this in mind, it was essential that Brunei not send the wrong signal by attending the Natanz event. Ali Hashim took this on board and said he would convey our concerns to MFAT leadership.

SKODON